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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7565
INFO RUCNAFG/AFGHANISTAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEUIH/ODC ANKARA TU//TCH// PRIORITY
RHMFISS/EUCOM POLAD VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RHMFISS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY
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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 001714

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/SE, SA/A

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/25/2018

TAGS: [MARR](#) [PREL](#) [NATO](#) [TU](#) [AF](#)

SUBJECT: ADDRESSING AFGHAN CONCERNS FOLLOWING SHINDAND
INCIDENT DEMARCHE DELIVERED

REF: STATE 99726

Classified By: Pol-Mil Counselor A. Godfrey, reasons 1.4 b and d

(C) We delivered reftel demarche to MFA Section Head for NATO Military Affairs M. Turker Ari on September 25. Ari welcomed the information. He said incidents involving civilian casualties tarnish the image of NATO, ISAF, and the international community and undermine the collective effort to establish stability and peace in Afghanistan. He agreed that greater information sharing and communication with Afghan authorities were essential to minimize the likelihood of such incidents in the future. While acknowledging the difficulties posed by Taleban tactics and the risks inherent in combat situations, he urged the US, to the maximum extent possible, to use greater care in selecting targets for engagement.

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